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INFORMATION REPORT

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25X1A

COUNTRY Sweden

DATE DISTR 23 OCT 51

SUBJECT Anti-Soviet Radical Publication

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1. During the winter of 1950-1951, a group of about 100 Left Socialists and dissident Communists organized to finance publication of a periodical called Gnistan (The Spark), which was to serve as the voice of "Titoist" Swedish Communists and Left Socialists. Three issues of the paper were published in several thousand copies, and publication was discontinued after the May 1951 issue. The editor of the paper was O. Lovqvist, an employee of the Swedish State Railroads, who was assisted by Karl Evert Wicksell, another employee of the State Railroads, and Gottfrid Nyberg, a shoemaker.
2. The small group which supported Gnistan was to have been joined by Evald Hoglund, leader of a Left Socialist group in Goteborg, but when the Hoglund group joined the Fourth International, the 100-man group disassociated themselves from him, since it was felt that his action was premature and it was more sensible to attempt to work against the Swedish Communist Party as an independent unit. The Hoglund group supports Gnistan to some degree, but works on the theory that only by unification of anti-Russian radical groups can success be reached. There are about 350 adherents to the Hoglund group in Sweden.
3. The publication probably will appear again in the fall of 1951 under a new name, since the name Gnistan is already being used as the title of a publication issued by the youth section of a large Swedish abolitionist organization. The radical paper formerly was published by Wicksell Publishers, Norrstationsgatan 119, Stockholm, and probably is published with minimum costs, since one of its members, Karl Evert Wicksell, is the brother of the owner of the press.
4. Much attention has been paid to this publication in the non-Communist Swedish press, but local sources feel that the paper has little actual importance as a "Titoist" publication, and that the dissident Communists who support it are more old Trotskyites than new "Titoites".

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